



The
GONDERMAN
F A M I L Y

April/May 2024

Brethren in the Lord, greetings from Australia.

The past months here in Sydney have been fruitful and productive, and much has been happening. Several years ago, one of our men came to me and told me that God had called him to preach the gospel. He stepped away from a career in commercial aviation, spent several years in training and preparation, and in March we ordained him and sent him out to start a church in the western suburbs of Sydney. Although in early days, the Lord has been blessing his efforts and some have already been saved, with a small group now meeting weekly. Although we rejoice in what the Lord is doing, it is a reminder of how many more labourers are needed here in this country. Please pray for Pastor Keegan Moodley and the New Life Baptist Church.

There have been several saved over these past couple of months, and I baptised a young man recently who is now engaged to a godly young woman in our church. A man I led to Christ several years ago recently led his nephew to the Lord, and two weeks ago his nephew brought a friend to church who got saved. This young man is a professional soccer player, tender-hearted and responsive to the truth. We are praying now that God will really get hold of his heart, knowing what a witness he could be as an influential sportsman. I've been rejoicing to see how the gospel spreads, and in this country the most effective way I've seen to evangelise is in friendships and relationships.

In April, our son Luke married a lovely young lady from our church, and we had the privilege of having our oldest son Levi arrive from the States to be a part of the wedding. It was a special time for the family to be together, and Heidi and I are so grateful to have another daughter in the family! The new couple are faithfully working in the church, and it really is a blessing of the Lord to serve alongside of our grown children.

God has recently called another of our men to preach the gospel, and he made it known publicly to the church in recent days. We are now praying in earnest for this man, and I will begin his training in the weeks to come. I have been training another of our men for the ministry already, and we are waiting on the Lord to be able to try to support him financially on a part-time basis, so I have the necessary time to invest in his training and Bible education. In our country there are very few men that are surrendering to the gospel ministry, so when a man raises his hand, it requires a real financial sacrifice to be able to have the time necessary to train and equip him. I am grateful to the Lord for this privilege.

A man that I trained went to Argentina several years ago as a missionary, and in the past eight years has now started three churches. The Lord brought him a young man that he trained, and I went over a few weeks ago to be a part of ordaining him to the ministry. Nicolas Suarez has now been placed as the pastor of this church, and the work of the gospel goes forward. This is what missions is about, the training and sending forth of men into the harvest fields, advancing the gospel into unreached areas. There is no greater privilege to me than this great work.

Another of the faithful men here has been greatly used of the Lord to facilitate the expansion of missions across Asia, helping to resource missionaries and print and provide Bibles across Asia. This past week we commissioned Br. Niranjan Sundararaj to this work. He has started Ministry Asia, and we rejoice in how the Lord has brought him to this needful work of helping and equipping missionaries and national pastors across Asia.

There are battles, of course. We continue to deal with depression and self-harm in the church, with carnal Christians and half-committed saints. But we know this is a normal part of working with people, and we also know that the word of God can absolutely change the heart. So, we press on. I have been praying about where we need to get the gospel next, and the Lord has been pressing some things on my heart about a further reach. Please pray with me to discern the open doors that seem to be in front of me.

As always, we love and appreciate you as faithful brethren, and are grateful for your part in advancing the gospel in this far corner of the world. May the Lord bless your faithfulness!

For souls,

Tom & Heidi Gonderman